

Application No. 09/986,739

Amendment dated December 31, 2003

Reply to Office Action of October 1, 2003

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph number [0018], with the following rewritten paragraph:

*A* [0018] As seen in better detail in Fig. 3, the elbow 34 has a conical filter housing 40 connected thereto. In this example the elbow and the conical housing form a unitary structure, although in other embodiments they could be separate components which are otherwise fitted or connected together. The conical filter housing 40 fits tightly within conical, internal cavity 42 of the member 26 as shown in Fig. 2. The conical shape helps to maintain the filter housing within the cavity. It should be understood however that in other embodiments the filter housing and cavity could be of different shapes, such as a cylindrical shape. Alternatively, the elbow 34 could be fitted directly into the passageway 30 of the earpiece. Elbow ~~24~~ 34 of this example has an interior passageway equal in diameter to passageway 30 or 2 mm in other words.